



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 27 June 1968



50X1

THE PRESIDENT'S
DAILY BRIEF
27 JUNE 1968

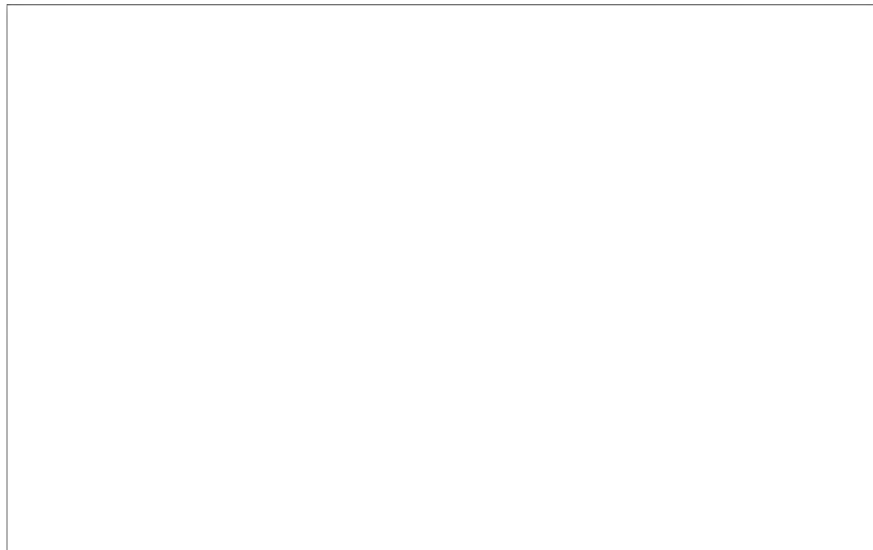
LATE ITEM

Soviet Union

Gromyko, addressing the Supreme Soviet in Moscow this morning, announced that the Soviet Union is ready to exchange opinions with the United States on limiting the development of both offensive and defensive rocket systems.

THE PRESIDENT'S
DAILY BRIEF
27 JUNE 1968

1. South Vietnam



50X1

2. Middle East

The Jarring Mission is now essentially in recess. Jarring has left New York for a vacation in Sweden, but hopes to submit his report to U Thant by the end of July.

Procedural questions are still overshadowing substance in the search for a settlement. Neither the Arabs nor the Israelis have bridged the question of how the talks should be staged. The Israelis still insist on face-to-face talks with the Arabs before any implementation on the November Security Council resolution can be accomplished.

3. Communist China



50X1

50X1

4. Communist World

50X1

5. Warsaw Pact

Sejna, the Czech general who defected last winter, has reinforced our thinking that Warsaw Pact doctrine calls for a pre-emptive nuclear strike against the West in the event a NATO nuclear attack is thought imminent. Sejna says the Soviets would hope to hit the US "some hours" prior to a strike from the West.

Sejna brought out a top secret document on the question of a surprise NATO attack during a period of relatively low tensions. It shows that the Czechs do not anticipate receiving even a hint of this more than ten minutes before the launch of NATO missiles. At that time, unusual communications or aircraft activity might give some warning.

50X1

6. Berlin

In its first assessment of West Berlin morale since the East German restrictions, the Berlin Mission comments that much of the population seems resigned about the city's future; many people are questioning whether to move or remain. Informed Berliners so far are more critical of Bonn than Washington for what they see as a lack of sufficient countermeasures.

Pan American and British European Airways meanwhile have reached tentative agreement on shuttle service between Hannover and Berlin beginning 1 August.

50X1

7. Bolivia

[redacted] President Barrientos' finance minister intends to resign rather than sign the \$4.5 million special assistance loan now being negotiated with Washington. The minister believes the terms of the loan are too stringent and that this would have serious political repercussions.

Barrientos himself fears the "humiliating" conditions attached to the loan more than the long-range economic effects of failing to get the money. He will undoubtedly discuss this problem with President Johnson next week.

8. Brazil

The Costa e Silva administration managed to squeak through yesterday's major protest demonstrations without excessive violence, but dissatisfaction among the military with the President's inept handling of the student problem is bound to increase. In fact, there is already talk of a plot by "hardliners" to push Costa e Silva out of office.

50X1

Top Secret

Top Secret



FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY

- 1.) Special Daily Report on North Vietnam
- 2.) North Vietnamese Reflections of U S
Political Attitudes



Top Secret

50X1

16

27 June 1968

Special Daily Report on North Vietnam
for the President's Eyes Only

27 June 1968

I. NOTES ON THE SITUATION

50X1

* * *

"Go And Fight In South Vietnam": These were the words of a resolution passed by Hanoi's Central Military Affairs Committee according to notes found in the diary of a North Vietnamese soldier who followed these instructions. The notes apparently were taken during a briefing last fall. The resolution has never been made public.

As described in the diary, the resolution justifies Northern participation below the Demilitarized Zone on the grounds that "Vietnam should no longer be divided . . . there will be only one country."

* * *

50X1

50X1

50X1

* * *

Wandering Vice Minister Returns: Hoang Van Loi, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs, returned to Hanoi Tuesday after a prolonged road show in Africa and the Middle East. Loi was explaining Hanoi's position to national leaders in Algeria, Mali, Brazzaville Congo, Guinea, Egypt, Syria, and Tanzania.

* * *

50X1

* * *

50X1

* * *

-2-

50X1

2
II. NORTH VIETNAMESE REFLECTIONS OF US POLITICAL
ATTITUDES ON THE WAR

There is nothing of significance to report to-
day.

Top Secret